

## TRAGEDY RETOLD.

The Story of the Capture of John Wilkes Booth.

Booth.

John Wilkes Booth's death was one of the most tragic events in the history of this country. The officer who commanded the company of cavalry which tracked Booth to his hiding place after he had assassinated President Lincoln in April, 1865, lives in New York City. The circumstances leading up to and following the killing of Booth are as fresh in his memory now as if they had happened yesterday. It was into his arms that Booth fell when shot.

Edward F. Dolohy, the General Inspector of Paving in the Department of Public Works, lives at 54 East One Hundred and Sixteenth street. He is Commander of Veteran Post, 436, G. A. R., and Grand Marshal of the City and County of New York. At the time of President Lincoln's assassination he was in command of Co. G, 16th N. Y. Cav. He had not yet received his commission as Captain, but had just been promoted to lieutenant in a company of the same regiment.

His regiment was at the front, but the company was ordered to Washington to take part in the funeral of the martyred President. This company was quartered in Lafayette Square, in Washington. During the exciting days following the assassination, squads of the troops in Capt. Dolohy's company were ordered to accompany parties of detectives, who were looking for every clue which might lead to Booth's capture. It was tiresome work, and Capt. Dolohy said recently that the men in his command began to have very little faith in the detectives.

One day Capt. Dolohy received an order from Gen. Howard to report to Col. Baker, the Chief Agent of the War Department, with 25 men, well mounted, and with three days' rations and forage. What happened Capt. Dolohy tells as follows:

"I reported, and Col. Baker gave me the photograph of John Wilkes Booth, Daniel E. Harrod, and the others who were thought to be implicated.

"I was ordered to go to Frederickburg, where no troops had yet been. I moved down to the Sixth street wharf, and Capt. Allen, of the Quartermaster Department, furnished me with the steamboat John S. Ide and the necessary forage and rations. I told the Captain to take me down the river as far as Aquia Creek. On arriving near there I told him to run to the north side of the river, and to anchor out in the river and to remain there until 6 o'clock p. m. of April 26. If he did not hear from me by that time he was to report back to Capt. Allen at Washington. This was at 12 o'clock midnight.

"Having landed I struck across the country toward Port Conway, intending to go up the Rappahannock on the north side of the river. I halted at 4 o'clock in the morning for the men to fix their saddles. A negro came along, and told me that a regiment had gone up to Frederickburg seven days before. I halted at Port Conway, and ordered the men to dismount and feed. I rode down with the bugler to Port Conway. There were some women at the ferryman's house. I did not talk to them, but they showed the photographs of Booth and the others, which I had received in Washington. The women picked out the photographs of Booth and the others, and were going to hire the ferryman, who was the husband of one of the women, to take them to Orange Courthouse. They offered him \$10. But Jett, Baggett, and Rainbird, three of the men, rode up just then, and one of them, I think it was Jett, recognized Harrod as an old schoolmate.

"Harrod took Jett to one side, and told him that they were the murderers of the President. Booth showed the tattooed letters, 'J. W. B.' on his arm as a means of identification. The woman told me that Jett was courting a young woman named Belle. I wrote a note to the ferryman, but to ride double with the men, and the party, the woman said, rode away in the direction of Bowling Green.

"I sent my bugler after Sergt. Corbett and the rest of the men. I told the woman to tell her husband, who was out fishing. On his arrival I sent him for a flatboat, which was on the other side of the Rappahannock River. Meantime my men had ridden up. We were all ferried across to Port Royal. Three of the men and horses could cross at once, so the ferry had to make several trips before the company was all on the other side of the river. On the last trip I arrested Baggett, the ferryman. He got his horse out and I ordered him to guide me by the nearest road to Goldman's hotel in Bowling Green. It was 15 miles away. Getting near to Bowling Green I left the men to go on ahead, and I went on with the two men. With this detail I surrounded Goldman's hotel. There, after some delay, I arrested Jett. This was about midnight. Jett denied all knowledge of Booth at that time.

"I had Stanton's proclamation in my pocket offering a reward and giving a description of the assassins. I showed this to Jett. When he read it, I said to him: 'I know your movements for the last two days. If you lie to me, I'll take you out and hang you. If you tell the truth, I'll protect you.' 'I had my revolver in my hand ready cocked. Jett began to cry. Then he said: 'I left him at Garrett's house, on your way from Port Royal. You passed him on three miles from here.' 'I put Jett on a horse under guard, and with my men and Rawlins went back to where the other troops were waiting.

"They were very tired and had fallen asleep. With great difficulty I woke them up. We retraced our way to Garrett's house. Rawlins was riding at the head of the column with me, and Jett was immediately behind. I told Rawlins to notify me when we were within a quarter of a mile of the Garrett farm.

"At a little after 4 o'clock in the morning we came in sight of the farm. I halted, had the men take down the fences, took off a patrol of six men, gave out the cup of water of 'Booth' and sent the six men to the rear of all outbuildings in the fields.

"I told the men that the assassins were in Garrett's house, and that I was going to surround it. It was only a short time before we had picked all around it. Then I went up to the house and kicked on the door. After a little delay Mr. Garrett made his appearance with a candle in his hand. He informed me that the persons who had been there had gone to the woods in the afternoon. I told him that I was going to search his house, and that if there were any women there for them to get up and dress.

"At that moment one of the troops sang out: 'Oh, Lieutenant! I've got a man here. I found him in the barn!' 'This young man was one of Garrett's sons, was brought before me. He began to cry. I told him that I did not want to talk to him. Where are the men? I asked him. 'They are in the barn,' he said, when he saw that I was in earnest.

"I ordered a Corporal with four men to guard the door of the barn, and I went around the barn, still holding on to young Garrett, and surrounded the barn. The doors were locked with a padlock. Young Garrett told me that his mother had the key. I went around the barn, and if the men were properly posted. There was a large crack at one side. I placed Sergt. Benton Corbett there. It was my intention to wait until daylight before examining the inside of the barn. But the men told me that they heard voices and the moving about of men in the barn. I then decided to get at them as soon as possible. The other Garrett boy was caught by a Corporal. He gave me the key, and I opened the door. I ordered both Harrod and Corbett out.

"I did not get any answer, so I ordered Corbett to go to the door and knock. He did so. 'Booth heard the order and called out: 'If you come back here I will put a bullet through you.' 'I suppose he meant if I came back to the door. I again decided to wait until morning. But the men at the other end of the barn had seated promptly on my orders and set it afire.

"I called out to Booth: 'You'd better come out.' 'You'd better come out.' 'For whom do you take me?' he asked. 'I do not make any difference,' he replied. 'I may be taken by my friends,' he said, sarcastically. 'I am a cripple and alone. Draw your men up at 25 paces and give me a chance for my life.' 'I did not come here to fight. I have 50 men, and I can take you,' I said.

"He waited a few minutes. Then he said: 'Oh, Captain, there is a man here who wants to surrender pretty bad.' 'You better follow his example and come out, too,' I answered. 'No, I have not made up my mind,' he replied. 'I then told Harrod to hand out his arms. 'I own all the arms,' said Booth. 'He has no arms. I may have to use them.' 'By this time Harrod was at the door. I again commanded him to give up his arms. He said he had none. I opened the door slightly and told him to put his hands out. I took him by the wrists and turned him over to Corbett. Just then I heard a shot. I thought Booth had shot himself.

"The hay in the barn, which had been set on fire at the other end, was blazing up brightly. 'Sergt. Corbett had been looking through the crack where I had stationed him, and in the light of the fire he saw Booth raise his rifle to shoot me or Harrod as I caught hold of the latter by the wrists when he surrendered. Corbett put his pistol through the crack and shot at Booth, intending to hit his arm and disable him so that he could not shoot me or Harrod. He was a splendid marksman. But instead of hitting Booth in the arm, as he intended, he hit him in the head, within an inch of the place where the President had been hit. 'I rushed into the barn. Booth's crutch had fallen. He was trying to support himself with his rifle. I sprang forward and caught him in my arms as he was falling.

"We carried him out of the burning barn and laid him down just outside the door. While he was lying there I spoke to him. He tried to raise his hands. He seemed powerless to do so, and I took hold of his hands and raised them up as I supposed he wanted them raised. But he shook his head and muttered: 'Useless, useless!'

"We picked him up again and carried him to the veranda of the Garrett house, because the fire was too hot to let him remain where we first put him. I sent over to Port Royal for Dr. Urquhart. He examined Booth's wound and pronounced it fatal.

"It was between 4:30 and 5 o'clock, the morning of April 26, 1865, when Booth was shot. He died a few minutes before 7 o'clock the same morning. Although he was conscious almost all the time, he did not speak after having shook his head and said, 'Useless, useless!'

"Those were the only words he uttered after he was shot. All the stories about the message for his mother were made out of whole cloth. 'As soon as Booth died, I sent the troops about the country to get a wagon. I took my two saddle-clubs, and had them sewed together for a blanket. It was not until nearly 9 o'clock that I found a wagon, and a man to drive it. We put Booth's body in it, and covered it with the improvised blanket. Then we started back to Washington.

"We got to Belle Plain just as the steamboat John S. Ide was sailing away, according to my orders. But we signaled to her, and she came back. We went on board and sailed to Washington. There I turned over Booth's body to the officers of the Ironclad Camp, 28, D. C.

"Congress appropriated \$75,000 to pay the rewards offered by the Government for the capture of Booth and Harrod. It took a year for the hearing of the various applicants for portions of this reward. Every man, woman and child who had given any information of even the slightest value, and many who gave no information at all, received part of the money. Capt. Dolohy received \$5,500, the largest amount given to any one. Col. Baker received about \$3,200. The two Sergeants, eight Corporals, and 16 privates in Capt. Baker's detachment, who were the capture of Harrod, and one of whom, Sergt. Boston Corbett, killed Booth, each received sums ranging from about \$1,100 to \$2,200 each. Two Washington detectives got \$4,000 each. Other claimants received smaller sums.

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## LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

News of Interest to Oklahoma Sisters.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The work of the Oklahoma Division of the G. A. R. is under the watchful care of Mrs. Ida Gainer, Department President. In her efforts to make the Department stronger and more effective she has been largely hampered by the general stagnation of business and by her own ill health. We trust, however, that Oklahoma will make a good showing in the National Convention at Louisville.

On the occasion of the annual installation of officers of the Oklahoma Division, which was conducted by the Department President, she also inspected the Circle. Mrs. Sizemore, President of the Circle, was accompanied by Mrs. Gainer, and the new friends among her Kingfishers, sisters by the gentle sweetness of her manner. Very soon after her return Mrs. Sizemore's home was the scene of the saddest accident that could possibly befall it. Her little son, about eight years of age, was fatally burned by the explosion of a coal-oil can, and after lingering a few days, died. In sorrow like this sisterly sympathy goes out to the bereaved as we mourned for one from our own household.

The session of the seventh annual Convention of the Department was held at Perry, beginning April 26. The presence of the National President, Mrs. Nettie E. Gunkel, is assured, an honor which will be thoroughly appreciated, no national officer of our Order having yet visited us.

The G. A. R. Posts and the Circles of the Ladies of the G. A. R. are in perfect accord and harmony in the work in which they are mutually interested. In view of this fact, and also that the Department officers of the G. A. R. are warm friends of our Order, we hope to achieve a greater work in the near future and win a higher place in our National Council than ever before. Yours, E. C. and L. Mrs. Allie Hopkins, Department Corresponding Secretary, Kingfisher.

Vermont Ladies' Aid Society. Aid 19, Milton, has elected and installed the following officers: President, Mrs. Emma Herrick; V. P., Mrs. Nettie Hall; Trustees, Mrs. Ella Washburn, Mrs. Marcia Moreton, Miss Bertha Gingham; Chap., Mrs. Ellen Smith; Sec., Mrs. Addie Allen; Treas., Mrs. Lily Perry; Guide, Miss Mabel Johnson; Asst. Guide, Mrs. Bertha Caswell; I. G., Mrs. Laura Perry; O. G., Miss Bertha Gingham; Judge-Advocate, Wm. Washburn; Advisory Board, Wm. Washburn, Hollis Wells, L. J. Washburn, Wm. Morton, Elmer Perry.

Aid 16, Springfield, gave a Valentine ball in connection with the Camp. Aid 19, Milton, assisted in observing Union Defenders' Day.

## REUNIONS.

Frank Post, Williamsburg: Reunion 27th Ohio at Williamsburg, April 13.

## GREAT MEDICINE.

Cod-liver Oil is useful beyond any praise it has ever won, and yet few are willing or can take it in its natural state. Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil is not offensive; it is almost palatable.

Children like it. It is Cod-liver Oil made more effectual, and combined with the Hypophosphites its strengthening and flesh-forming powers are largely increased.

Don't be persuaded to accept a substitute! Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c and \$1.

## SONS OF VETERANS.

News from Various Divisions—Election of Officers, etc.

### CONNECTICUT.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Jno. M. Simms Camp, 40, Stamford, united with Hobbs Post and the W. R. C. of the same place, and held a very patriotic celebration on Washington's Birthday. E. C. Willard, Superintendent of the Public Schools, was Chairman of the meeting. A number of toasts were responded to, among them "The Sons of Veterans," by Senior Vice Commander F. C. Buntin. Past Commander Tomms, of Hobbs Post, then gave an interesting talk on the experience of the American soldier from the time of Washington to the present, and had his own experience to bear out his statement.

During the recent Encampment of the G. A. R., held at Bridgeport, Mallory Camp made itself very useful to the Post.

At a public Campfire held in the Park City Theater, Lieut. James C. Les Strange spoke for the S. of V.

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### ILLINOIS.

Elder E. O. Sharpe, of Saybrook, the author of the "Little Brown Button," which appears in another column, will be placed in nomination by McPherson Camp, 100, for Division Commander. His father served in Co. D, 101st Ind., and later in the Veteran Reserve Corps.

### KANSAS.

The Encampment of this Division elected the following officers: Com. W. H. Russell; S. V. C., L. B. Pence; J. V. C., A. J. Clarke. Permanent Headquarters were established at Emporia for this year. Every man, woman and child was elected as Quartermaster.

### KENTUCKY.

Ellsworth Yates, Quartermaster, Headquarters Kentucky Division, Augusta, writes: Our Kentucky is still booming under the Administration of W. E. Evans, who has been elected to the position of Division Commander. He has been elected to the position of Division Commander. He has been elected to the position of Division Commander. He has been elected to the position of Division Commander.

What Camp will be the first to have a good working degree team? The resignation of Maj. C. Fayer Sorman as Captain of Wm. H. Mallory Camp, 11, Bridgeport, has been accepted at Headquarters, and a new election ordered to fill vacancy.—FAYER.

### MINNESOTA.

A Camp of Sons of Veterans was organized on Washington's Birthday at Ashley, and the following officers were installed by Capt. George F. Whitecomb, of Alexandria: Capt. Phillip G. Cowing, First Lieut., S. C. Rugland; Second Lieut., A. M. Schow; Chap., H. K. Nelson; First Sergt., J. E. Robert; J. V. C., G. G. Kelly; S. V. C., G. Alfred Schow; J. S. George Larson; Principal Musician, A. N. Pennek; C. of G., Charles Bowman; C. G., Henry Melby; P. G., Bert Beardsley. The Camp Council is Ross Beardsley, Frank Wahlbeck and J. M. Bowman.

Camp, of that city, to make this a notable event in the history of the West Virginia Division. Hotel rates will range from 75 cents to \$3 a day. The arrangements with railroads are not fully completed. The Ohio River Railroad gives one free for the round trip, and it is expected that all other railroads will do as well. The program of meetings and exercises will be published in the next Division Orders.

### HARRISBURG REUNION.

Third Division, Ninth Corps, Army of the Potomac, Will Meet April 9.

The fourth Reunion of the veterans comprising the Third Division, Ninth Corps, Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj.-Gen. John F. Hartranft, will take place at Harrisburg, Pa., April 9, 1895, the 30th anniversary of the surrender at Appomattox.

The Pennsylvania troops comprising this division were the 200th, 205th, 207th, 208th, 209th and 211th regiments. On the banners of this organization are the scars of war made at Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and other battles. The American soldier from the time of Washington to the present, and had his own experience to bear out his statement.

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### PENSION LEGISLATION.

An Act to Provide for the Payment of Accrued Pensions in Certain Cases, which will be of interest to a large number of our readers. This act repeals all prior laws relating to the payment of accrued pension, and other of our countrymen, and it renders inoperative by this act.

Judge John M. Reynolds, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, in the act that he found, upon induction into office, a decision dated Sept. 28, 1892, under which, in many instances, the pension reverted to the Government instead of going to the widow or child of the deceased, or to the person who bore the expense of the last sickness and burial of the pensioner. This matter received his careful consideration, and he made an elaborate report to the Secretary of the Interior, in which he expressed the opinion that the benefits of Section 4718, R. S. U. S., ought to be extended to minor children and widows and heirs, and under the act that he found, upon induction into office, a decision dated Sept. 28, 1892, under which, in many instances, the pension reverted to the Government instead of going to the widow or child of the deceased, or to the person who bore the expense of the last sickness and burial of the pensioner. 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